

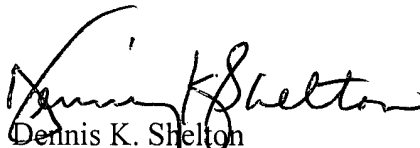
REMARKS

The foregoing amendments to the specification are made to delete the identification of the inventors on page 1, add a Cross-Reference to Related Application section, and to provide an Abstract of the Disclosure on a separate sheet. Claims 1-12 and 16-23, which are the subject of applicants' allowed U.S. Application No. 09/326,500, filed June 4, 1999, have been canceled from the present application. Claims 13-15 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim applicants' invention.

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment and favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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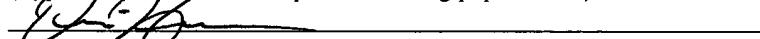
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2004 FEB 20 6 54 PM '02

In the Specification

The identification of the inventors has been deleted.

A Cross-Reference to Related Application section has been added.

An Abstract of the Disclosure has been submitted as new separate page 13.

In the Claims

13. (Amended) Sunflower seeds comprising a sunflower oil having:
- a oleic acid content of more than 5% and less than 65% by weight based upon the total fatty acid content,
  - a linoleic acid content of more than 1% and less than 65% by weight based upon the total fatty acid content,
  - a palmitic acid content of more than 20% and less than 40% by weight based upon the total fatty acid content,
  - a stearic acid content of more than 3% and less than 15% based upon the total fatty acid content,
  - [characterized in that] wherein the palmitoleic acid content is less than 4% based upon the total fatty acid content, and[;]
  - the asclepic acid content is less than 4% based upon the total fatty acid content.
14. (Amended) Sunflower seeds [comprising a sunflower oil according to claim 2] of claim 13 wherein the palmitoleic acid content is less than 3% based upon the total fatty acid content.
15. (Amended) Method for preparing sunflower seeds as claimed in claim 13, comprising the steps of:

a) crossing sunflower seeds of the mutant sunflower line IG-1297M deposited on 20 January 1998 with ATCC under deposit accession number ATCC-209591 with the mutant sunflower line CAS-3, deposited on 14 December 1994 with the ATCC under deposit accession number ATCC-75968[.],

b) self-pollinating F1 progeny plants of step a) for at least two generations to produce inbred plants[.],

c) selecting from the progeny of step b) plants with seeds containing an oil having a palmitic acid content of more than 20%, a palmitoleic acid content of less than 4% and an asclepic acid content of less than 3%[.],

d) collecting progeny seeds from step c), and optionally

e) repeating the cycle of culturing, selection and collection of seeds.

Claims 1-12 and 16-23 have been canceled.

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